¶ Here begynneth a lytyll treatyse schortely compyled and called ars moriendi/that is to saye the craft for to dye for the helthe of mannes sowle.

¶ Whan ony of lykly hode shal dye/thenne is moste necessarye to haue a specyall frende/the whiche wyll hertly helpe and praye for hym & therwyth counseyll the syke for the weele of his sowle/& more ouer to see that alle other so do aboute hym/or elles quyckly for to make hem departe. ¶ Thenne is to be remembred the grete benefytes of god done for hym vnto that tyme/and specyally of ỹ passyon of our lorde/and thenne is to be rede somme story of sayntes or the vij psalmes wyth ỹ letanye or our lady psalter in parte or hole wyth other And euer the ymage of the crucyfyxe is to be hadde in his syght wyth other. And holy water is oftymes to be cast vpon and about hym for auoydyng of euyll spirytes ỹ whiche thẽne be full redy to take theyr auauntage of the sowle yf they may. ¶ And thenne and euer make hym crye for mercy and grace & for the

helpe of our blessyd Lady & of other sayntes in whome afore he hade a synguler trust & loue and therupon to make his prayers yf he may. ¶ Whan deth cometh or ony greuous pan; gys/ or other grete sykenes/ thenne prayer or de uocion auayleth/ wherfore it is wysdome for one to praye afore ony sykenesse come/ & also whan one may in his sykenes yf he wyll not be deceyued. ¶ So he is happy & may be glad that suche a tyme of most nede hath a feythfull frende & that wyll say beside ỹ prayers a fore rehersed & cause other also to say deuoutly in re membraũce of ỹ charyte of Jhu cryst & of his passyon & for to haue ỹ rader his mercy & helpe iñ pr̃ nosters & iñ auees with a credo And ther with to exhorte him by a prest or for nede by an other in the maner as it folowyth.

BRoder or syster remembre wel that god seyth by his prophete & euãgelyst. Blys sed be tho that deye & departe in our lorde/ that is to say from the worlde and his pleasurys and deye in the true faythe of the chyrche and repentaunce for hyr synnes. ¶ Syr ye haue

grete cause to be glad for to departe from this
wretchyd worlde and fall of alle mysery/and
thynke that ye nedes must departe/and desyre
hertely to be wyth Jhesu cryst your maker re-
demer/& lord'god/for he shal gyue to you nowe
your enherytaūce that he dyde bye for you with
his precyous passyon & blood / wherfore this
tyme of your departyng shall be better to you
than the tyme of your byrthe / for nowe all sy-
kenesse sorowe and trouble shall departe nowe
from you for euer . Therfore be not agreuyd
wyth youre sykenesse and take it not wyth
grutchyng but take it rather by all gladnesse
¶ See at all tymes that ye be stable in your
faythe and byleue and say your Credo yf that
ye may or ellys desyre a nother hertely to doo it
for you here afore vs openly. And arme you
euer wyth the sygne of ỹ crosse ✝ as a crysten
man for your defence ageynst youre ghostly
enemyes/in ỹ whiche doyng/god wyll be gret
ly pleased & the rather take you for one of his
folke by protectcyon and grace & as his chylde
of saluacyon. ¶ Haue euer a good & trewe by
leue/& no thyng may be Impossyble vnto you

And euer beware that ye fall not in dyſpeyre for that gretly wolde dyſpleaſe god/& can not be remedyed. And remembre ỹ ſynnes done afore tyme ſhall neuer hurt you as to dampnacyon/ yf they pleaſe you not nowe & that ye be ſory for them. ¶ Sayne Jerome ſeyth/yf one ſholde take his ſekeneſſe or his deth with grutchyng/it is a token that he loueth not god ſufficyently / alle is ryghtwyſe that we ſuffre. ¶ Deſyre with ſayne auſtyn of our lorde here to be cutte wyth trybulacyon & to be brenned wyth ſykenes & ſorowe/ſoo ỹ ye may be ſaued hereafter for euer. ¶ Nowe meke your ſelf & be ſory that ye haue ben ſo vnkynde to pleaſe & to kepe his cõmaundementes & preſume not as of your ſelf ony goodneſſe/& ſay wyth all meekeneſſe thus. Good lord Jheſu cryſt I knowlege the that I haue ſynned greuouſly/& by thy grace I wyll gladly amende me yf I ſhold lyue/haue mercy nowe of me for thy bytter paſſyon. ¶ Than aſke hym thyſe queſtyons folowyng a fore his deth.

BE ye glad that ye ſhal deye in criſten beleue/ Lete hym anſwere/ye/knowe ye ỹ

ye haue not ſo well lyued as ye ſholde/ye/haue ye wyll to amende yf that ye ſholde lyue/ye/by leue ye ỹ Jheſu cryſte god ſone of heuen was borne of bleſſyd marye/ye/Byleue ye alſo that Jheſu cryſt deyed vpon ỹ croſſe to bye mannes ſoule on good fryday/ye/ Do ye thanke god therfore/ye/Byleue ye ỹ ye may not be ſaued but by his paſſyon & deth/ye/ ¶As long as ỹ ſoule is in your body thanke god for his deth & haue a ſure truſt by it & his paſſyon to be ſaued. And counſeyll hym to ſay yf ỹ he may thyes folowyng wordes of grete vertue.

¶Put cryſtys paſſyon betwyxe me & myne euyll werkys/& betwyx me & his wrathe Now lorde god be mercyfull to me a ſynner. ¶The peace of our lord ihu cryſt & ỹ vtue of his paſſyon wyth ỹ ſygne of ỹ holy croſſe & ỹ vndefyled vgynyte of blyſſed mary his moder & ỹ blyſſyng of all ſaynte/& ỹ ꝓtecyon of all holy angels wyth ỹ helpe & ꝑyers of al ſaynte be betwyxe me & all myn enemyes now & in ỹ houre of my deth & departyng Amen ¶Alſo thyes verſe folowyng be of grete vertue in the tyme of deth/& to be ſayd of the ſyke yf he may

or by an other for hym. Dirupisti dñe vincu-
la mea. tibi sacrificabo hostiā laudis. et nomē
dm̄ inuocabo. Deus ꝓpicius esto michi peccōri
Dñe ihū xp̄e Ego cognosco me grauiter pec-
casse. et libenter volo me emendare ꝑ grāz tuā
Miserere mei ꝓpt amarā passionē tuā. Dñe
ihū redemisti nos in sanguine tuo. laus sit ti
bi ꝓ amara passione tua. Largire clarū ves-
pere. quo vita nusq̄ decidat. sz p̄miū mortis sa
cre pennis instet gloria. Also to oure Lady
Maria plena grē mater misericordie. tu nos
ab hoste ꝓtege. et in hora mortis suscipe. And
at last: In manus tuas dñe cōmendo spiritū
meū. In noīe prīs et filij ⁊ spūs sancti amē.

¶ There foloweth a shorte and swete remem-
braunce of the sacrament of the aulter or that
it be receyued of the seek persone or of ony o-
ther afore there comunyng.

Welcome blessyd Jhesu my lord god ⁊ sa
uyour/to whom is apropryed all mercy
⁊ pyte. Remembre good lorde how freyll my
nature and substaunce is / and haue mercy ⁊
pyte on me grete synner/after thy grete mer-

eyes and for thy bytter passyon/for I knowle che & byleue faythfully as a crysten chylde of thyn/that thou here in fourme of brede/is the same my lord god ꝑ of thy goodnesse come down from heuen & was borne & toke my nature of blyssed Virgyne Mary & dyed for me & rose the thyrde day & after ascended in to heuen and there reygneth with the fader & the holy ghoost & all saynte for euer ī mortall/ꝑ which for our grete helth frayle & dayly transgressyon & in remē braunce of thy grete loue & passyon hast ordeyned this thy blessyd body in this wyse to be taken of me & of all other wyllyng to be saued ¶ I knowe well ꝑ I am fer vnworthy to be called thy child or seruaūt for ꝑ grete multytude of my synnes/how be it ꝑ mayst make me rightfull & able ꝑ which only of synners hast made grete saynte of heuen By ꝑ thy grete power & myght graūte me now to take ꝑ meke ly ī all fere & with waylyng for my synnes & with a spirytuall gladnes. Come now good lord in to my herte & clense it of al synne/entre in to my soule and make it hole/and therwith sanctyfye me within & without and be my de

fence for body & ſoule rebukyng & puttyng a ſy
de all myn enemyes fer from ỹ preſence of thy
power/ỹ I thenne ſo defended by ỹ may haue a
free & ſure paſſage to thy kyngdome/where I
ſhall not ſee ỹ in this fourme by myſtery/but
I ſhall ſee the face to face where I ſhall neuer
hungre ne thurſt/but euer be in ioye with ỹ &
thyne/there to glorifye the & to worſhyppe ỹ to
laude & to preyſe ỹ world without ende am̃.
¶ By thyes folowyng aeñ venyall ſynnes
(taken alwaye yf they be done deuoutly.
IN taſtyng holy water holy brede/alſo by
ſeyeng of the Pater nr̃/& ſpirytually for this
clauſe & petycõ. Dimitte nobis debita nr̃a ſi
cut & nos dimittim9 debitoribz nr̃is. ¶ And
alſo by knockyng of ỹ breſt for onis ſinnes &
alſo for ſeyeng of Deꝰ ppiciꝰ eſto m̃ pccõri/&
by ſeyeng of the comyne Confiteor at maſſe or
at other tyme. Alſo by receyuyng of ony of ỹ
ſacm̃ents of the chyrche/& ſpecyally of the body
of our lord. Alſo by heryng of maſſe/& by the
ſyght of the ſacment of ỹ aulter there or ellys
where By the bleſſyng of a biſſhop or of a preſt
at his maſſe. By ony of the dedes of mercy. by

pardones/by martyrdom/ & penaunce/by forgy
uenesse to a trespasour/by good ensample gy:
uyng/or for conuertyng of other to good lyf:
by pacyence thankyng in trouble/and by con:
trycyon for synnes wyth dyspleasure of hem.
And for euery good dede dooeng wyth good
entent and deuocyon Amen.

¶ The famose doctour Johan gerson Chaū
celler of parys takyng his grounde of holy
scrypture and accordyng wyth holy doctours
seyth thus.

OVre moost mercyfull fader lorde god/
knowyng our freylte & redynesse to all
synne/is euer redy duryng this wretchyd &
mortall lyf by many & dyuerse wayes to for:
gyue vs eū our trespace & to graunte & gyue
vs his grace/yf so be that trewly we do ordey:
ne vnto hym thyes iij vertues folowyng/soo
that they be sayde & done wyth all the herte de:
uoutly. The fyrst is that thou shalt say Bles
sed lord I knowleche that I haue synned gre:
uously ageynst thy goodnesse thus and thus
rehersyng thy synnes/& I am dyspleased ther:
wyth by reason of the whiche I do penaunce &

wyll do / for I knowe well that I haue gre:
uyd the mercyfull lord & broken thy commaun
dementes in the whiche thou onely ought to be
worshypped. The seconde/say this. Good lord
I haue a good purpose and desyre wyth thy
helpe/to be ryght ware herafter that I fall not
in to synne / & I entende to flee the occasyons
after the possybylyte of my power. The iij.
is this. Gracyous lord I haue good wyll to
make an hole confessyon of all my synnes /
whan place and tyme conuenyent may be had
accordyng to thy commaundementes and all
holy chyrche. Thyes iij verytees or trewthys
who soeuer sayth with his herte vnfeynyngly
in what place ye euer he be/he may be sure that
he is in the state of grace and saluacyon and
that he shall haue euerlastyng lyf though all
he had done all the synnes of the world. And
yf he decessyd wythout ony other confessyon for
lack of a preest as slepyng or sodeyne deth / he
sholde be saue suffryng a fore harde payne in
purgatorye. Wherfore it is good cōuseyll that
euery crysten man ones or twyes on the day
erly or late or ellys at lest on holy dayes exa:

men his conscyence / and remembre yf that he may with al his herte vnfeynyngly this say iij treuthis / & yf he can so do / he may be sure that he is in the state of grace / and yf he may not / but is in wyll to synne ageyn / and to haue his delectacion with dede / and wyll not flee the occasyons of mortall synnes / & so drowned in synne wyll not aryse / such one may be certeyne that the Pope may not assoyle hym. not for thy good it is that such one vse moche prayer and gyue almesse and to do other good dedes after theyr power / that god the rather may lyghten theyr hertes and the soner torne to goodnesse Amen.

¶ Here folowyth a synguler prayer to be say de in the fest of the dedycacyon of ony chirche or at ony other tyme.

O Myghtyfull and mooste pytyeuous lorde god Jhesu Cryste whiche of thy grete goodnesse hath ordeyned alle thynges that ben in heuen and in erthe for the vse and vtesle of man / to the entente and ende that they shall serue hym / and be the allone. And how be it that in eche place ỹ ought to be serued and

worshypped / yet it pleaseth the moche more suche seruyce & prayer in a place or chirche that is dedyfyed / enueyled & halowed by a bysshop and his mynystres wyth ympnes / psalmes & letanyes / & other suffragyes wyth theyr mysteryall obseruauntꝭ ordeyned therfore / and for by cause thy precyouse body and blood is ther̄ dayly offred vp vnto thy fader in heuen ī knowleche of thy grete loue & passyon that thou haddest for man. ¶ And yf it pleased the in the olde testament wyth thyn angels nyght & day to be assystent and to here the prayers of thy seruauntes in the temple / where was but the flesshe and blode of vnresonable beestys offred in sacrefyce / moche more we truste that thou wyll vysyte & be assystent to vs nyght & day wyth thyne angels in this thy newe temple and chyrche / where thyne owne body and very blood dayly is offred vp vnto thy fader in heuen / and therwith receyued accordyng to thy desyre and wyll of vs thy seruauntes though synners for our saluacōn & therto here ẏ prayers of vs & other ẏ entende to loue worshyp & thanke ẏ ī ẏ best maner we can or may

¶ Now theñe blessyd lord full of all mercy & pyte/ that wyll that we calle vpon the & hath promysed to here the prayers of the seruauntes graunte now and at all tymes to vs & to all other of thy superhabundant mercy and grace/ that who soeuer come vnto this chyrche or to ony other wyth deuocyon & praye in what caas that euer they be/ prosperyte/ temptacyon/ trouble/ or aduersyte/ that theyr petycyon behouefull and necessary prayer may be herde/ and that the pardone graunted to them may in her soules and bodyes wyth all other thynges apperteynyng vnto them may take effect in euery parte gracyously. ¶ And ouer this graũte vs of thy pyte/ pease and accorde in the chyrche & realme/ and to our founders/ faders and moders/ frendes/ benefactours/ & to all crysten soules/ forgyuenes of theyr synnes wyth relesse of theyr paynes & ioye ꝑpetuel. And fynally we desyre of thy boũteuous goodnesse sesonable weder wyth fruyt & to exclude from vs pestylence hungre moreyne & sykenesse & all enemyes ghoostly & bodely & therwyth graũte vs of thy grace good lyf & endelesse blysse. Amen

¶ There ben the xii degrees of humylyte:
Cast thy syght downward/& shewe meknesse
bothe in thy herte and body.
¶ Beware of hyghe speche & clamorous/& see ỹ
thy wordes be fewe/well sette/& resonable.
¶ Be not light for to laughe/but vse eũ sadnesse
¶ Be stylle & kepe sylence/to nede requyre ỹ an-
swere must be hadde. (vsed.
Kepe well ỹ comyn rule as the holy place hath
Thynke the most vyleste of al other & so pnoũ
ce thy self. (thyng/& so byleue in dede.
Knowleche ỹ vnworthy & not pfitable to ony
¶ Make oft confessyon of thy synnes/& ỹ wyth
grete contrycyon. (nes & trouble:
Kepe pacyence in thyn obedyẽce/at all thy pay
To al pple be ỹ sudyett for thy maisters sake
Thyn one wyll forsake it/& loue it ī no wyse
And eu kepe ỹ frõ synne for fere of him a boue

¶ The vii degrees of obedyence.

The fyrst is to do that is cõmaunded of thy so
uerayne wythout grutchyng.
The seconde is to make none excepcõn/nether
of ỹ tyme nether of ỹ dede that is to be done.
The iij is to be glad & cherefull in thy herte to

do suche dedes cōmaunded without ony compul
syon settyng a syde all bestly condycyons.
The iiij is to be quycke in suche dede dooeng le
uyng all other occupacyons for that tyme or
ony maner of excuse.
The fyfte is to do suche thynges wyth all thy
myght & power/thynkyng ye thy reward shall
be grete. (bothe in spiryte & gesture.
The vj is to doo hem also wyth all mekenesse
The vij is to contynue suche obedyēce to ye en
de of thy lyf euer folowyng thy mayster Jhesu
cryst ye was made obedyent for thy synne vn
to deth.

¶ The xii degrees of pacyence.

The xij degrees of pacyence yu mayst beholde her
To euyl don to ye or adūsyte make no resistēce
Do not euyl for euyl ne gyue an euyl answer
Loue thyn enemy & do good for euyll to hym
in recompence. (swete encence.
Grutche not ageynst aduersyte but take it as
Accounpt it for best medycyne/& be gladde in
thy payne.
Thanke god therfore / & loke for more wyth
all benyuolence.

BODLEIANA BIBLIOTHECA

And whan thou hast no grutchyng in thyse
thenne mayst thou be fayne.

The xv degrees of charyte.

Thyse make pfyt charyte/aft poules epistyll
Be pacyente contynuell for ony aduersyte
Lyberall to the nedy/and good doo for euyll.
Of other mēnys welfare enuy not ne by heuy
Lete not by thy crokydnesse good werkes to
multyplye. bour prospere.
Swell not inwarde by malyce yf thy neygh:
Loue to be in low degree & lothe to be hyghe.
To labour for other as thi self do thi vtt deuoir
Be not meuyd for ony cause to vengaūce or
to yre. cacyon.
Thynke none euyll to an other for ony prouo
Joy ÿ not in wyckednesse but sorwe ÿ rader.
Be glad in trouthe & ryghtwysnesse & hate sy
mulacyon.
For suche right bere adūsite or oni tribulacōn
To that ÿ chirche techeth ÿ put ful credulyte.
That god hath ꝓmysed trust it well withou
defallacyon.
In hope abydyng his reward and eūlastyng
glorie. Amen Explicit.